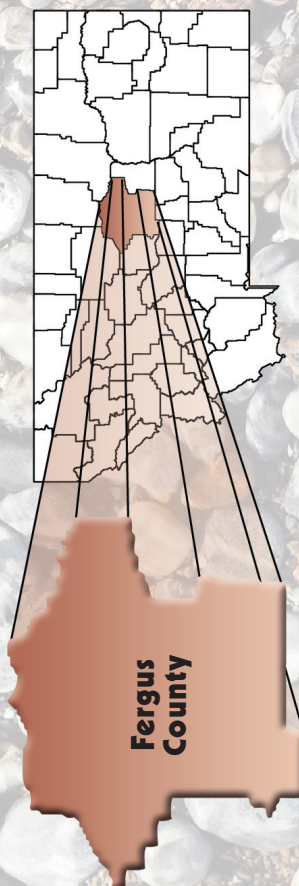




Photo courtesy of Donnie Sexton, Travel Montana

Demographic & Economic Information for Fergus County



RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU

Research & Analysis Bureau - Montana Department of Labor & Industry
P.O. Box 1728 - Helena, MT 59624-1728 - Ph: (406) 444-2430
or Toll-Free: (800) 541-3904 - Fax: (406) 444-2638
E-mail: webmaster@mt.gov Website: www.ourfuture.org



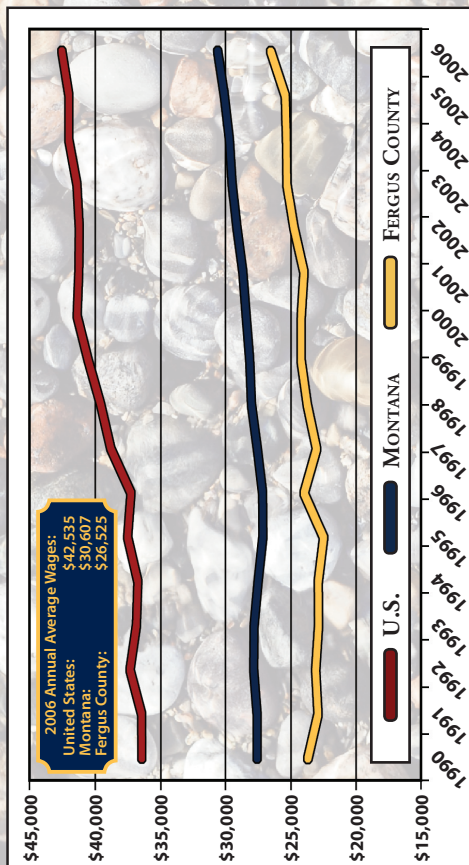
Census and Economic Information Center - Montana Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 200505 - Helena, MT 59620-0505 - Ph: (406) 841-2240 - Fax: (406) 841-2231
E-mail: ceic@mt.gov Website: www.ceic.mt.gov

Annual Average Labor Force - Fergus County

Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2006	5,728	5,509	219	3.8%
2005	5,773	5,505	268	4.6%
2004	5,792	5,512	280	4.8%
2003	5,723	5,450	273	4.8%
2002	5,846	5,571	275	4.7%
2001	6,109	5,794	315	5.2%
2000	6,124	5,804	320	5.2%

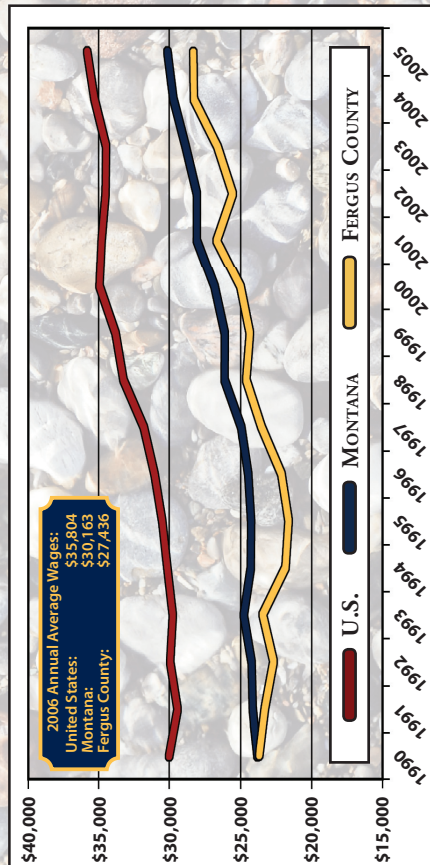
Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS)

Annual Average Wages, 1990 to 2006 (In 2006 Dollars)



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

Per Capita Personal Income, 1990 to 2005 (In 2006 Dollars)



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Information System

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FERGUS COUNTY

Fergus County is Montana's 15th most populous county with an estimated 11,496 residents as of July 1st, 2006. Lewistown, the county seat, is located at the geographic center of Montana, and is the state's 15th largest city with an estimated population of 6,083 in 2006¹. Other cities and towns include Denton, Grass Range, Moore, and Winifred.

The majority of Fergus County consists of rolling prairie, aside from the Big Snowy and Little Snowy Mountain Ranges to the south. The Missouri River forms the northern border of Fergus County, and much of the surrounding land has been designated part of the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. The southwest corner of the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge is also located within Fergus County.

¹U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Resources for Fergus County

Chamber of Commerce

Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce
408, N.E. Main
Lewistown, MT 59457
Phone: 406-535-5435
www.lewistownchamber.com

Newspaper

Lewistown News-Argus
P. O. Box 900
Lewistown, MT 59457
Phone: 406-535-3401
www.lewistownnews.com

Economic Development

Snowy Mountain Development Corporation
613 N.E. Main
Lewistown, MT 59457
Phone: 406-538-2591
smdcmac@midrivers.com

Job Service Workforce Center

Lewistown Job Service Workforce Center
300 1st Avenue North
Lewistown, MT 59457
Phone: 406-538-8701
<http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/local/lewistown>

Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2006 (continued)

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	15	38	\$32,905
Air transportation	2	*	*
Truck transportation	7	11	\$21,343
Support activities for transportation	3	4	\$20,838
Couriers and messengers	2	*	*
Warehousing and storage	1	*	*
INFORMATION	7	68	\$18,182
Publishing industries, except Internet	2	*	*
Motion picture, sound recording industry	1	*	*
Broadcasting, except Internet	2	*	*
Telecommunications	2	*	*
FINANCE AND INSURANCE	19	123	\$38,263
Credit intermediation & related activity	7	87	\$39,367
Securities, comm. contracts, investments	2	*	*
Insurance carriers & related activities	10	*	*
REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING	15	52	\$11,957
Real estate	9	29	\$14,019
Rental and leasing services	6	23	\$9,326
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	28	121	\$47,084
MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES	1	*	*
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	15	58	\$15,024
Administrative and support services	12	39	\$10,514
Waste management and remediation service	3	19	\$24,570
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	1	*	*
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	42	667	\$25,599
Ambulatory health care services	27	126	\$26,836
Hospitals	2	*	*
Nursing and residential care facilities	2	*	*
Social assistance	11	128	\$13,256
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION	12	98	\$11,314
Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	1	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	11	*	*
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES	46	440	\$8,779
Accommodation	8	73	\$12,303
Food services and drinking places	39	366	\$8,073
OTHER SERVICES	41	142	\$13,372
Repair and maintenance	17	34	\$15,378
Personal and laundry services	5	24	\$15,775
Membership associations & organizations	15	73	\$11,475
Private households	4	12	\$14,562
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	41	1,007	\$29,848
Local Government	19	593	\$24,750
State Government	11	255	\$29,718
Federal Government	11	160	\$48,985

The QCIEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)

Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2006

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	463	4,247	\$26,523
TOTAL PRIVATE	422	3,240	\$25,490
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	8	14	\$15,882
Crop production	1	*	*
Animal production	2	*	*
Forestry and logging	3	6	\$14,924
Agriculture & forestry support	2	*	*
MINING	2	*	*
Mining, except oil and gas	1	*	*
Support activities for mining	1	*	*
UTILITIES	4	43	\$63,208
CONSTRUCTION	61	393	\$41,946
Construction of buildings	17	55	\$22,807
Heavy and civil engineering construction	9	242	\$52,881
Specialty trade contractors	35	96	\$25,418
MANUFACTURING	24	295	\$27,923
Food manufacturing	4	25	\$20,776
Beverage and tobacco product mfg	1	*	*
Wood product manufacturing	2	*	*
Printing and related support activities	1	*	*
Plastics & rubber products manufacturing	2	*	*
Nonmetallic mineral product mfg	1	*	*
Primary metal manufacturing	1	*	*
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	6	110	\$39,513
Transportation equipment manufacturing	1	*	*
Miscellaneous manufacturing	4	20	\$17,036
WHOLESALE TRADE	23	201	\$30,309
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	10	*	*
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	12	100	\$28,889
Electronic markets & agents and brokers	1	*	*
RETAIL TRADE	59	463	\$21,313
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	10	84	\$25,684
Furniture and home furnishings stores	4	19	\$21,608
Electronics and appliance stores	4	12	\$18,021
Building material & garden supply stores	8	34	\$21,865
Food and beverage stores	7	95	\$19,490
Health and personal care stores	2	*	*
Gasoline stations	5	35	\$11,517
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	5	39	\$12,512
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	2	*	*
General merchandise stores	3	32	\$18,263
Miscellaneous store retailers	9	49	\$14,940
Nonstore retailers	1	*	*

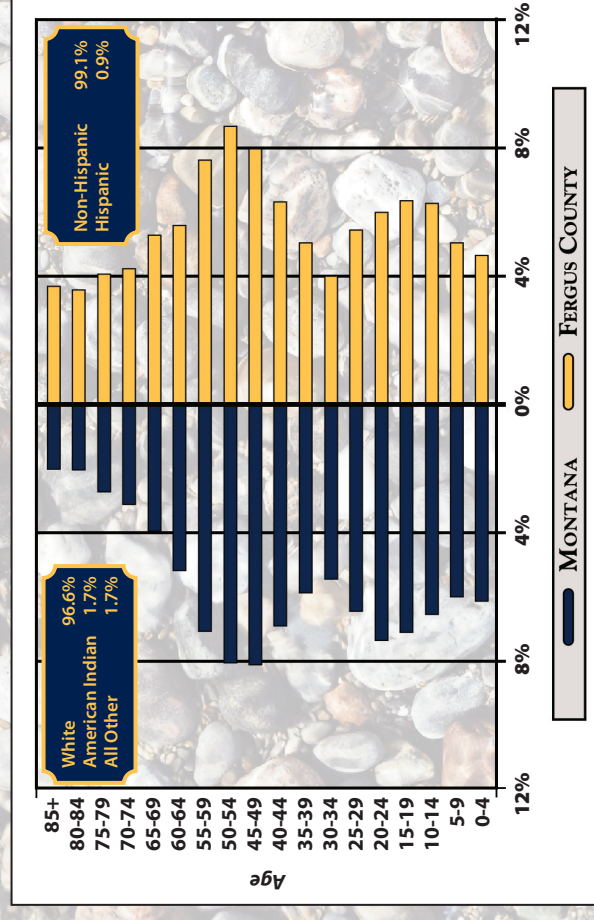
Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)
* Data Not Disclosable

Population for Fergus County & Related Areas

Geography	% Change 2000-2006	Population Estimates								Census
		July 1, 2006	July 1, 2005	July 1, 2004	July 1, 2003	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2001	July 1, 2000		
Fergus County	-3.3%	11,496	11,503	11,619	11,653	11,677	11,761	11,897	11,893	
Denton town	-5.0%	286	287	291	293	294	297	301	301	
Grass Range town	-2.0%	146	146	145	146	147	148	149	149	
Lewistown city	4.6%	6,083	6,082	6,155	6,172	6,173	6,218	6,294	5,813	
Moore town	0.0%	186	186	188	185	184	185	186	186	
Winifred town	-3.8%	150	150	151	152	153	154	156	156	
Balance of Fergus County	-12.2%	4,645	4,652	4,689	4,705	4,726	4,759	4,811	5,288	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Distribution of Population by Age Montana and Fergus County, 2006



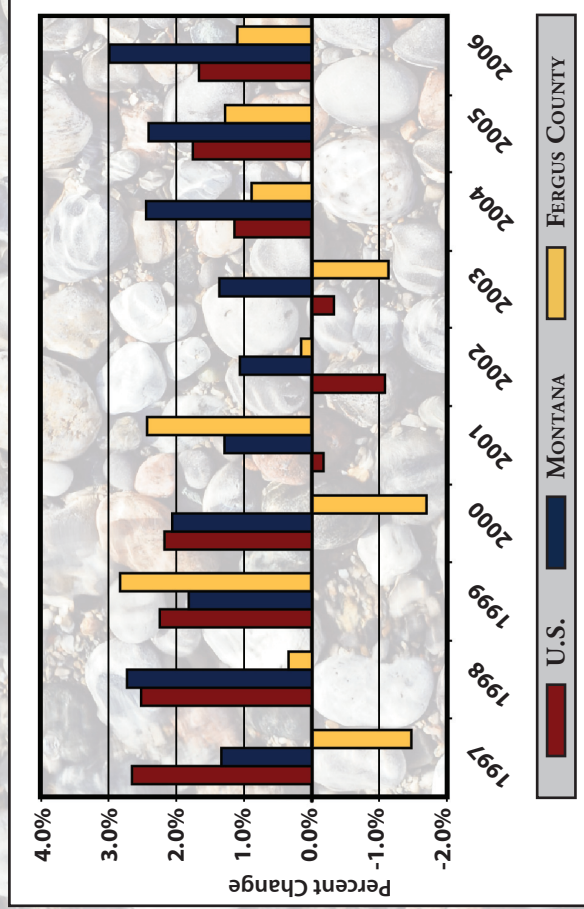
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 Population Estimates

Highest Level of Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and older)

Educational Attainment	Fergus County	Montana	U.S.
Less than High School Diploma	13.7%	12.8%	19.6%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	36.8%	31.3%	28.6%
Some College	25.0%	25.6%	21.0%
Associate Degree	5.5%	5.9%	6.3%
Bachelor's Degree	14.3%	17.2%	15.5%
Master's Degree	3.4%	4.6%	5.9%
Professional Degree	0.9%	1.7%	2.0%
Doctoral Degree	0.5%	0.9%	1.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

Percent Change in Employment: 1997 to 2006 U.S., Montana, and Fergus County



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

Top 10 Private Employers in Fergus County (Based on 2nd Quarter 2007 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
Albertsons	5	M K Weeden Construction	5
Allied Steel	5	P B S & J	5
Central Montana Medical Center	6	Valle Vista Manor	5
Century Construction	6	Wickens Construction	5
Hi-Heat Industries	4	Yogo Inn of Montana	5

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 8 = 500 to 999 employees, Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99 employees, Class 4 = 20 to 49 employees, Class 3 = 10 to 19 employees, Class 2 = 5 to 19 employees, Class 1 = 1 to 9 employees.

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW) This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads and government agencies are excluded.

Agricultural Statistics - Fergus County

Farms	
Farms: (number)	830
Land in farms (acres)	2,281,789
Average size of farms (acres)	2,749
Farms by size: (number)	
Less than 1,000 acres	399
1,000 acres or more	431
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)	
Less than \$100,000	612
\$100,000 or more	218
Farms by type of organization: (number)	
Family, Individual, Partnership	775
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	55

Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested

Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)	
Cattle and calves	96,825
Hogs and pigs	416
Sheep and lambs	6,576
Horses and ponies	1,979
Bison	32
Chickens (layers and broilers)	2,482
Crops Harvested (acres)	
Corn for grain	0
Corn for silage or greenchop	0
Wheat for grain, All	151,901
Winter wheat for grain	93,334
Durum wheat for grain	482
Spring wheat for grain	58,085
Barley for grain	43,118
Oats for grain	1,982
Sunflower seed, All	(D)
Soybeans for beans	0
Hay, hayslage, grass silage	163,614

Operator Demographics

Primary occupation: (number)	
Farming	571
Other	259
Place of residence: (number)	
On farm operated	672
Not on farm operated	158
Years on present farm: (number)	
Less than 10 years	210
10 years or more	620
Age group: (number)	
Under 55 years	436
55 years and over	394
Average age of operators: (number)	55.2

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002
(D) - Not Disclosable